

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (New) A monitoring system comprising:  
a tracking mechanism comprising:  
    a shopper tracking component comprising a video surveillance system to track a shopper and the shopper's actions;  
    an object tracking component to track merchandise as the shopper is shopping;  
and  
    a behavior recognition component for reducing the shopper's actions to events;  
    wherein the tracking mechanism generates and updates a list of currently acquired items based on information from the shopper tracking component, the object tracking component, and the behavior recognition component; and  
    a processor for providing any discrepancies by analyzing the list of currently acquired items.
14. (New) The monitoring system of claim 13, wherein the processor analyzes the list of currently acquired items by comparing the list of currently acquired items to a list of purchased items generated at a point of sale.
15. (New) The monitoring system of claim 14, wherein the discrepancies comprise shoplifting, sweetheating, vandalism, theft, or combinations thereof.
16. (New) The monitoring system of claim 13, further comprising: a storage device for storing the list of currently acquired items.
17. (New) The monitoring system of claim 16, wherein the storage device also stores a history.
18. (New) A monitoring method comprising:

generating and updating a list of currently acquired items by tracking merchandise as a shopper is shopping, tracking the shopper and the shopper's actions using video surveillance, and recognizing behavior of the shopper by reducing the shopper's actions to events; and

analyzing the list of currently acquired items by a processor for providing any discrepancies.

19. (New) The monitoring method of claim 18, wherein analyzing the list of currently acquired items comprises comparing the list of currently acquired items to a list of purchased items generated at a point of sale.

20. (New) The monitoring method of claim 19, wherein providing the discrepancies comprise providing information about shoplifting, sweetheating, vandalism, theft, or combinations thereof.

21. (New) The monitoring method of claim 18, further comprising: storing the list of currently acquired items.

22. (New) The monitoring method of claim 21, further comprising: storing a history.